REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the present application. Previously, claims 2-5

were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, however the Examiner now rejects all of

the pending claims. Specifically, claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

as allegedly being unpatentable over Konno et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,914,516) in view of

Yoshizawa (US Patent No. 6,414,586). Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly

being unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa, and further in view of Lipshutz (US

Patent No. 4, 583,148). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being

unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa, and further in view of Mueller et al. (US Patent

No. 6,140,914). Finally, claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being

unpatentable over Konno in view of Yoshizawa, and further in view of Espinosa (US Patent No.

5,448,218).

§103(a) Rejections (Konno / Yoshizawa) - Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 11

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant submits that the applied references, either

alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest at least, "said operation-equipment operation

determining part permits the operation of said engine by using said permission information in

said nonvolatile memory, when said engine is restarted in a predetermined time after generation

of said permission information," as recited in amended claim 1. In an exemplary embodiment,

the present invention can relate to a "smart key-less system" in which an ID code is transmitted

from a portable transmitter 1 and is checked against a code stored in immobilizer unit 2. When

the ID code is good, an engine can be started ON/OFF in accordance with the check results by

communication between immobilizer unit 2 and ECU 3 (including a fuel injection device and so

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on). In the prior art, when a driver wants to start this vehicle (e.g., a motorcycle), the above

check processes must be repeated. An exemplary object of the present invention is to permit

starting without repeating the above check processes, when the engine is restarted in a relatively

short period (within a predetermined time) after being started once by executing the above check

processes. This can be done by storing the permission information in a nonvolatile memory.

Thereby, the engine can be restarted promptly (see, page 18 last paragraph to page 19 second

paragraph in the specification), enabling operation of a motorcycle.

Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentably

distinguishable over the applied references, either alone or in combination. Applicant submits

that independent claim 2 is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above

with respect to claim 1.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 4-6 and 11 are patentable at least by virtue of

their respective dependencies from independent claims 1 and 2.

Rejections of Dependent Claims and 7-10

Applicant submits that dependent claims 7-10 are patentable at least by virtue of their

respective dependencies from independent claims 1 and 2. The tertiary references do not make

up for the deficiencies of Konno and Yoshizawa.

. In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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